



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

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A special "THANK YOU" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped us by completing surveys via mail, telephone, or personal interviews. This issue contains the results of monthly and quarterly surveys.

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POTATOES: Maine's farmers harvested 16.96 million cwt (hundredweight) of fall potatoes in 2002, three percent above 2001 output, securing the State's rank as the eighth largest producer of fall potatoes in the Nation. Growers harvested 64,000 acres in 2002, an increase of 2,000 acres from 2001. Cool, wet weather conditions prevailed that spring and the crop was only 55 percent planted by the end of May, compared with 85 percent planted in 2001 and normal of 65 percent. Wet conditions persisted for the remainder of planting and emergence was slow due to cool soil temperatures. A mix of rain and heat in June and July provided excellent conditions for the emerging crop. Hot, dry weather followed in August, which reduced tuber size but kept diseases under control. Showers returned at the end of August and growers delayed harvest of russet varieties to take advantage of late season rains to improve sizing. Potatoes were 100 percent dug by October 21, on schedule with normal. Potato yields averaged 265 cwt per acre, unchanged from 2001.

With sales just short of \$112 million, Maine ranked seventh in the Nation based on the value of 2002 fall potato sales. The price received for Maine grown potatoes averaged \$7.05 per cwt, down \$0.60 per cwt from a year earlier, but above the National average of \$5.91 per cwt.

Potato farmers in Massachusetts and Rhode Island battled drought conditions during the 2002 growing season. Massachusetts growers harvested 3,200 acres with yields averaging 255 cwt per acre. Rhode Island potato farmers harvested 500 acres and yields averaged 235 cwt per acre.

United States production of **fall potatoes** was finalized at 414 million cwt for 2002, up five percent from the 2001 crop. Area harvested in 2002 was estimated at 1.11 million acres, up three percent from a year earlier. The average yield, at 373 cwt per acre, is up six cwt from a year ago. Final production of fall potatoes is one percent below the Annual Crop Summary in January. Value of all potato production in 2002 is estimated at \$3.07 billion, up less than one percent from the previous year.

The average price, at \$6.69 per cwt, went down \$0.30 from a year earlier.

Total **United States 2002 potato production** is estimated at 460 million cwt, one percent below the estimate made in the Annual Crop Summary in January but up five percent from the 2001 crop. Harvested area, at 1.27 million acres, increased four percent from a year ago. The average yield of 362 cwt per acre is up four cwt from 2001 but 19 cwt below the average yield from the 2000 crop. By season, winter production went up two percent, spring rose seven percent, summer fell one percent, and fall increased five percent from the previous year.

Sales from the 2002 potato crop totaled 423 million cwt, up five percent from 2001. Sales accounted for 92 percent of 2002 production. Non sales accounted for 36.6 million cwt, virtually unchanged from the previous year. Over the past five years, 91 percent of the potatoes grown have been sold. The other nine percent were either lost (shrinkage and loss) or used on farms where grown (seed, home use, and livestock feed). Processors used 263 million cwt of raw potatoes from the 2002 crop, up five percent from a year earlier. Table stock sales totaled 133 million cwt, nine percent above the previous year. Seed sales of 24.1 million cwt are down one percent. Sales for livestock feed, at 3.10 million cwt, are down 11 percent from a year earlier.

MILK PRODUCTION: Milk production in **Vermont** during August 2003 totaled 215 million pounds, a decrease of four percent from August 2002. There were an estimated 148,000 milk cows on Vermont farms during August, unchanged from the previous month, and a decrease of 6,000 head from the previous year. Milk production per cow during August averaged 1,450 pounds, unchanged from August 2002.

LAYER AND EGG PRODUCTION: Connecticut and Maine **layer** inventories in August 2003 totaled 7.1 million birds, a decrease of three percent from their combined total in August 2002. Maine is the leading producer of eggs in New England, with an output of 99 million during August 2003. Connecticut produced 68 million eggs from all layers during the same month.

The total number of layers in the **United States** during August 2003 averaged 332 million, down one percent from a year earlier. United States egg production totaled 7.31 billion during August 2003, also down one percent from last year.

FALL POTATOES: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2001 - 2002

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	Cwt	Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt
Maine	62.0	64.0	62.0	64.0	265	265	16,430	16,960
Massachusetts	2.9	3.3	2.8	3.2	265	255	742	816
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	280	235	140	118
United States Fall Crop	1,091.5	1,138.8	1,073.2	1,109.4	367	373	393,750	414,317
United States All Seasons	1,247.7	1,304.6	1,222.2	1,270.3	358	362	437,888	459,802

SOURCE: **Potatoes**, 3:00 p.m., September 18, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.**FALL POTATOES: Production, Disposition, Price, and Value, 2002**

State	Production	Total Used for Seed ^{1/}	Disposition			Price per Cwt	Value of	
			On Farm Where Grown		Sold		Production	Sales
			Seed, Feed, Home Use	Shrink and Loss				
	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Dollars
Maine	16,960	1,386	310	790	15,860	7.05	119,568	111,813
Massachusetts	816	65	5	16	795	7.30	5,957	5,804
Rhode Island	118	11	--	--	118	7.75	915	915
United States Fall Crop	414,317	24,681	5,401	29,425	379,491	5.91	2,451,136	2,243,100
United States All Seasons	459,802	28,299	5,631	30,955	423,216	6.69	3,066,081	2,831,698

^{1/} Seed used to plant 2003 crop acreage.SOURCE: **Potatoes**, 3:00 p.m., September 18, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.**FALL POTATOES: Stocks Held By Growers, Local Dealers, and Processors, 2002 Crop ^{1/}**

State	December 1 2002	January 1 2003	February 1 2003	March 1 2003	April 1 2003	May 1 2003	June 1 2003
	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt	1,000 Cwt
California	3,300	2,900	2,400	2,000	1,600	1,000	700
Colorado	20,500	18,100	15,300	13,100	9,900	5,800	3,800
Idaho	92,000	82,500	72,500	62,000	49,000	34,500	21,000
Maine	12,600	11,200	9,500	8,000	6,300	3,900	2,100
Michigan	7,900	6,500	5,600	4,500	2,900	1,000	
Minnesota	12,000	10,500	9,100	7,400	6,100	4,300	2,300
Montana	3,100	3,000	2,900	2,800	1,900	400	
Nebraska	5,500	4,550	3,700				
New York	2,400	1,800	1,100	600	220		
North Dakota	16,000	14,000	11,600	10,000	7,900	5,500	2,700
Ohio	85	40	20				
Oregon	17,500	15,000	12,500	9,900	7,500	5,000	2,300
Pennsylvania	1,400	1,100	900	600	400		
Washington	50,000	43,500	38,500	30,500	23,000	16,500	9,000
Wisconsin	20,300	17,000	13,700	11,000	7,100	3,700	1,300
Other ^{2/}				2,910	2,050	1,340	780
Total 15 States	264,585	231,690	199,320	165,310	125,870	82,940	45,980

^{1/} Revised.^{2/} Blank States combined into "Other".SOURCE: **Potatoes**, 3:00 p.m., September 18, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, August 2003 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	August 2002	July 2003	August 2003	August 2002	July 2003	August 2003	August 2002	July 2003	August 2003
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds
Vermont	154	148	148	1,450	1,505	1,450	223	223	215
New York	676	679	678	1,505	1,500	1,480	1,017	1,019	1,003
Pennsylvania	585	574	571	1,515	1,500	1,480	886	861	845
United States ^{2/}	7,785	7,765	7,759	1,570	1,590	1,563	12,223	12,345	12,127

^{1/} Average number for the month, including dry cows.

^{2/} United States includes only 20 major States: AZ, CA, FL, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, MI, MN, MO, NM, NY, OH, PA, TX, VT, VA, WA, and WI.

SOURCE: **Milk Production**, 3:00 p.m., September 17, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

VERMONT MILK: Prices Received, 1998 - 2003

Year	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for Milk Sold to Plants												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt	Dollars Per Cwt
1998	15.20	15.20	15.20	14.90	14.60	15.10	14.80	15.90	17.30	17.90	17.70	18.00	16.00
1999	18.20	16.60	16.50	13.90	13.90	14.10	14.50	14.90	16.20	16.30	16.30	13.90	15.40
2000	13.40	13.40	13.50	13.40	13.50	13.80	13.50	13.80	14.00	14.00	14.30	14.60	13.80
2001	13.70	14.30	15.00	15.40	16.20	16.80	17.00	17.30	17.90	16.40	15.80	14.10	15.80
2002	14.20	13.80	13.30	13.10	12.70	12.10	11.60	11.70	12.00	12.50	12.50	12.40	12.70
2003 ^{2/}	12.30	11.90	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	12.00	12.80					

^{1/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

^{2/} Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.

SOURCE: **Agricultural Prices**, 3:00 p.m., August 29, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, July 2003 with Comparisons

Product	July 2002	June 2003	July 2003	July 2003 as percent of:	
				July 2002	June 2003
	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Percent	Percent
Butter	2,401	2,645	2,368	99	90
American Type Cheese ^{1/}	--	4,605	5,835	--	127
Mozzarella Cheese	--	6,636	6,738	--	102
Other Italian Cheese ^{2/}	--	498	473	--	95
Cottage Cheese ^{3/}	530	690	688	130	100
	1,000 Gallons	1,000 Gallons	1,000 Gallons	Percent	Percent
Ice Cream, Hard	9,360	8,280	9,682	103	117
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	610	714	707	116	99
Milk Sherbet, Hard	190	176	102	54	58

^{1/} American Type Cheese includes cheddars, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, Monterey and Jack.

^{2/} Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.

^{3/} Creamed and lowfat.

SOURCE of NATIONAL PRODUCTION: **Dairy Products**, 3:00 p.m., September 4, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, August, 2002 - 2003

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ^{1/}		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ^{1/}		Egg Production from All Layers ^{1/}	
	August 2002	August 2003	August 2002	August 2003	August 2002	August 2003	August 2002	August 2003
	1,000 Birds	1,000 Birds	1,000 Birds	1,000 Birds	Number	Number	Million Eggs	Million Eggs
Connecticut	3,030	2,829	3,090	2,891	2,233	2,352	69	68
Maine	4,164	4,172	4,221	4,224	2,180	2,344	92	99
United States	271,512	268,511	336,159	332,003	2,188	2,201	7,356	7,308

^{1/} Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.
SOURCE: **Chickens and Eggs**, 3:00 p.m., September 23, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

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